

In some instances, steering a local criminal into the federal system was as simple as a Richmond police officer paging the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to double-check for federal gun violations, such as the obliteration of serial numbers on weapons, use of a gun while possessing a controlled substance or possession of guns buy fugitives.

Several federal judges here have complained that their caseloads now seem to resemble reruns of the "Night Court" television show, but city officials and community leaders delight in the lower homicide rate.

In the year that ended last week, 363 guns were seized, 191 of 251 of those arrested on gun violations were convicted, and 137 of those were sentenced to an average of 56 months in jail.

James B. Comey, the executive assistance U.S. attorney who helped craft the Exile program, said the numbers in part reflect the unusually large number of people who were carrying guns in Richmond.

"Richmond is a weird place," he said. "The world is flooded with guns here."

Comey, a tall, boyish prosecutor who spins hair-raising tales about his Mafia wire-tapping days in New York, said the gun "carry" rate—the number of times police confiscate a gun when arresting suspects—has dropped from 135 a month to 67.

"It's an amazingly high carry rate," he said. "I've never seen a place like 'Richmond. Dealers in cities like Chicago, New York or Cleveland have access to guns, but they're not standing on a street corner with a gun!"

Of Project Exile, he added: "It's a cultural war. It's totally apolitical. It's about locking up criminals with guns."

Gun violence has long plagued Richmond, sending its homicide rate higher than the District's several years this decade. In the fall of 1994, for instance, Richmond passed its previous homicide record, outpacing every city in the country except New Orleans.

S. David Schiller, the senior litigation counsel in the U.S. attorney's office, said police have passed out 17,000 hand bills detailing the program. There are Exile billboards, television spots and even a giant black city bus that runs through the city with a message in stark white paint: "An illegal gun gets you five years in federal prison."

A coalition of civic and merchant groups has raised \$40,000 and pledged an additional \$60,000 to fund the marketing efforts.

Though the Exile prosecutions have not been glamorous—"These cases are not sexy: These are mutts with guns," said Schiller—they are getting notice in other urban centers. Seventeen cities nationwide, including the District and Baltimore, are now participating in a federal pilot program to trace illegal guns, and there has been talk of extending Exile elsewhere.

"Richmond has one of the most involved programs in the country," said Joe Sudbay, a spokesman for Handgun Control in Washington. "It's a great combining of resources to combat violence."

NRA Executive Director Wayne R. LaPierre said that Exile "ought to be in every major city in the country where there's a major crime problem."

"The dirty little secret is that there is no enforcement of federal gun laws," LaPierre said. "What Exile's doing—which I think is great—is for the first time in a major American city, if a criminal picks up a gun, he'll do major time. It's a message the NRA cheers, a message police cheer."

"That's the magic of what they're doing in Richmond. The word is out on the streets of Richmond that the U.S. attorney is dead serious about stopping gun violence."

#### AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER, MAJORITY LEADER AND MINORITY LEADER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS AND MAKE APPOINTMENTS NOTWITHSTANDING ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Tuesday, July 14, 1998, the Speaker, majority leader and minority leader be authorized to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

#### DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1998

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, July 15, 1998.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, the House will soon have the opportunity to vote on legislation that will help secure the rights of parents to counsel our children during a situation of great confusion that could lead to grave consequences, that of obtaining an abortion.

Almost half the States in the American union have passed laws that require the consent or notification of one or both parents before a minor girl can obtain an abortion. These laws are designed to assure that a mother, father or legal guardian can provide counsel and comfort to an innocent and naive young girl before making a decision that brings with it mental and physical ramifications.

Unfortunately, unscrupulous abortionists, while practicing in a State without parental notification laws, loudly advertise in another State which does have consent laws, that their abortion mill lacks such notification requirements. Minor girls are then taken by a stranger, oftentimes, to obtain this dangerous procedure.

This, Mr. Speaker, is an outrage that must be stopped, and can be stopped, if

Congress adopts the legislation that I have introduced along with the gentleman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK), who joins me here tonight, H.R. 3682, the Child Custody Protection Act. This bill would make it a Federal misdemeanor for an adult to knowingly transport a minor across State lines in order to evade a State's parental notification or consent laws on abortion. This legislation already has 135 cosponsors, and this number is rising, because it is a common sense idea, protecting parental rights from being stripped away by a complete stranger.

Many of our Nation's schools, for example, prohibit giving an aspirin to children without parental notification. Yet we have a situation where a complete stranger can take a young girl away from her parents to obtain an abortion and suffer no consequences, despite this young lady having been subjected to a life-threatening procedure.

President Clinton this week said parents should know when their children are being encouraged to smoke by tobacco companies. Well, this same principle, the parents right to know, should apply also to a young girl obtaining an abortion.

In July, just in a few weeks, we will have the opportunity here in the full House of Representatives to secure the parents right to know, to know when our daughters are being taken advantage of by a stranger without our consent and without our notification. H.R. 3682 is that opportunity, Mr. Speaker, and I hope that all of our colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, conservatives and liberals, will join in protecting parental rights from being stripped away by a stranger.

We urge our colleagues to support H.R. 3682, the Child Custody Protection Act.

#### SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS SANCTITY OF ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, in the continuing saga of the legal education of Kenneth W. Starr, the Supreme Court upholds the sanctity of the attorney-client relationship. In a vote of six to three today, they upheld this relationship by ruling that communications between a client and his or her lawyer remain privileged, even after the client's death.

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Today's decision rejected efforts by the Independent Counsel, Kenneth Starr, to obtain three pages of handwritten notes taken by the attorney for former deputy White House counsel Vincent Foster. The notes were taken during a meeting between Mr. Foster and his lawyer just 9 days before Mr. Foster tragically took his own life.

Mr. Starr had asked the court to rule that anything a client says to his or her lawyer should be available to a prosecutor after the client dies. He also asked the court to believe that only clients who intended to perjure themselves would be stopped from talking to their lawyers if they knew that their conversations might become public after their death.

The Supreme Court, in an opinion written by Chief Justice Rehnquist, wrote that

The attorney-client privilege is one of the oldest recognized privileges for confidential communications. It is intended to encourage full and frank communication between attorneys and their clients, and thereby promote broader public interests in the observance of law and the administration of justice.

He added that "It has been generally, if not universally, accepted, for well over a century, that the attorney-client privilege survives the death of the client in a case such as this." In light of this settled law, the Chief Justice said that "The burden is on the Independent Counsel to show that 'reason and experience' require a departure from this rule," and the court concluded that Mr. Starr could not meet that standard.

Rejecting Mr. Starr's view that only guilty people will invoke the privilege, the Chief Justice made the common-sense observation that people go to see attorneys about a wide range of matters that might prove embarrassing if made public after they die. For example, people routinely meet with lawyers to talk about family or money problems, and who would ever want these kinds of things made public? Think of the possible embarrassment to a person's family or the potential damage to that person's reputation, even after his or her death.

The Chief Justice wrote that,

There are weighty reasons that counsel in favor of posthumous application. Knowing that communications will remain confidential even after death encourages the client to communicate fully and frankly with counsel. While the fear of disclosure, and the consequent withholding of information from counsel, may be reduced if disclosure is limited to posthumous disclosure in a criminal context, it seems unreasonable to assume that it vanishes altogether. Clients may be concerned about reputation, civil liability, or possible harm to friends or family. Posthumous disclosure of such communications may be as feared as disclosure during the client's lifetime.

During his 4-year, \$40 million investigation, Mr. Starr made it seem that anyone who asserts a privilege when he demands information is somehow trying to obstruct justice. Without question, it is important for a prosecutor to uncover facts necessary to decide whether a crime has been committed, but we expect the basic principles of law and civility will be followed during criminal investigations.

The decision today by the United States Supreme Court reaffirms what most of us already knew, which is that the relationship between a lawyer and

a client is sacred, and that prosecutors themselves are sometimes guilty of excesses.

#### TRANSFER OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

#### LET US PASS THE CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Child Custody Protection Act. This bill is very important to any parent who has a teenage daughter, and I look forward to a vote on the bill shortly after the July 4 recess.

Members may already know that people of several States have recently decided that a parent should know before their child has an abortion. We all hope that our teenage daughters have the wisdom to avoid pregnancies, but if they make a mistake, a parent is best able to provide advice and counseling. Also, more than anyone else, a parent knows their child's medical history. For these reasons, my home State of North Carolina requires a parent to know before their child checks into an abortion clinic, as does the State of Pennsylvania.

Earlier, though, this month the Senate Committee on the Judiciary heard chilling testimony about how law-breaking citizens risk children's lives by taking them from their parents for out-of-State abortions. Before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Joyce Farley, a mother from Pennsylvania, told the tragic story of her 13-year-old daughter.

Three years ago this summer, a stranger took Ms. Farley's young child out of school, provided her with alcohol, transported her out of State to have an abortion, falsified the medical records at the abortion clinic, and abandoned her in a town 30 miles away, frightened and bleeding. Why? Because this stranger's adult son had raped Joyce Farley's teenage daughter, and she was desperate to cover up her son's tracks.

Even worse, this all may have been legal. It is perfectly legal to avoid parental abortion consent and notification laws by driving children to another State. It is wrong, and it has to be stopped.

According to the Reproductive Law and Policy Center, a pro-choice group in New York, thousands of adults across the country carry children over

State lines to get abortions in States without parental notification laws. So-called men in their twenties and thirties coerce teenage girls to have abortions out of State and without their parents' knowledge.

The Child Custody Protection Act would put a stop to this abuse. If passed, the law would make it a crime to transport a minor across State lines to avoid laws that require parental consent or notification before an abortion.

Let us do something to help thousands of children in this country. Let us pass the Child Custody Protection Act, and put an end to the absurd notion that there is some sort of constitutional right for an adult stranger to secretly take someone else's teenage child into a different State for an abortion.

#### A TRIBUTE TO JERRY GRANT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly unique individual who has served our country, my great State of Maryland, and the Congress of the United States for over four decades. Mr. Jerry Grant is one of the finest examples of people dedicated to standing up for what is right and fighting, both in the forefront and behind the scenes, to make our country a better place for all our citizens.

Jerry turned 60 years old on July 1, and I would like to be one of the many to wish him a very happy birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I first met Jerry when both of us were attending a national Young Democrats convention, he as the president of the Young Democrats of Colorado, and I as the president of the Young Democrats of Maryland. Even at that young age, Jerry made an indelible impression, with his uncanny ability to persuade people to listen to his point of view and come onto his side of an issue. The good thing about Jerry Grant is that he uses this talent in a positive manner, to influence opinion to the good of politics and the people involved.

By 1972, Jerry was serving as a county commissioner of Adams County, Colorado. I am not sure whether this stint as a public official made him more sympathetic or critical of elected officials, but since then Jerry has served in a variety of non-elected positions, quietly and effectively making a difference in people's lives.

Jerry served for 10 years as Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Jim Sasser of Tennessee, earning the respect of fellow staff and Members of the Senate alike. Jerry was the guy who knew all of the ins and outs of an issue, and the person who people turned to when they were not exactly sure just where to be in a controversy.

After promising himself and his family a quieter life outside the beltway,